



April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Help Us Build Awareness and Protect Washington Children

April 2006

Dear Friend of Children:

Each April, people across the country join together during **National Child Abuse Prevention Month** to help raise awareness of the tragedy of child abuse and neglect and to promote ways in which together we can prevent these occurrences in our communities.

As one of the organizations leading this campaign in our state, the **Washington Council for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (WCPCAN)** would like to invite you to take part in this year's activities.

Since its inaguaration in 1999, the **Washington Blue Ribbon Collaborative** has built a growing statewide network of partners. The goal of Washington's annual month-long observance is to raise public awareness of child abuse and neglect and to encourage individuals and organizations to join together in its prevention. As campaign partners, collaborating organizations leverage shared resources for greater impact.

The blue ribbon used in the campaign is a symbol used nationwide to raise awareness about Child Abuse Prevention Month. Washington's statewide Blue Ribbon campaign has one clear message: **Keep Kids Safe.**

Your participation could make a world of difference in the life of a child, a family or community. Your role as a partner can range from agreeing to share the message with employees to financing production of promotional materials. When you agree to partner, your organization will be identified along with our growing list of collaborative participants and invited to participate at whatever level you choose in planning and decision making.

Here are the organizations that are currently collaborating with WCPCAN to commemorate April Child Abuse Prevention Month 2006:

Children's Hospital & Regional
Medical Center
Children's Response Center
Conscious Fathering
Deaconess Children's Services
DSHS Children's Administration
King County Dependency Court
Appointed Special Advocates

King County Child & Family
Commission
King County Community Organizing
Program
Mary Bridge Children's Hospital
Parent Trust for Washington
Children
Safe Harbor Crisis Nursery

Sacred Heart Children's Hospital
The Salvation Army NW Regional
Headquarters
Washington State Association of
CASA/Guardian ad Litem
Programs

More information – including tool kits, sample press releases, and **free** campaign materials – is available on the WCPCAN website at www.wcpcan.wa.gov.

Your involvement would be greatly appreciated. If you have an interest in participating in the campaign and being identified as a partner -- or just want more information -- please let us know. **Contact Chris Jamieson, WCPCAN Communications Director, at 206-389-2412 or jamiecd@dshs.wa.gov.**

Thanks for giving this invitation your consideration. We hope to hear from you as plans for Child Abuse Prevention Month 2006 get underway!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joan Sharp".

Joan Sharp
Executive Director

Our Mission:

To increase public awareness about child neglect and abuse through the Washington State Blue Ribbon Campaign to "Keep Kids Safe."